

Message Text

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ACTION STR-04

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FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2906

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ETRD, KS

SUBJECT: MOTOR VEHICLE DOMESTIC CONTENT REQUIREMENTS

REF: STATE 218027

1. VOLLING INFO ON MOTOR VEHICLE DOMESTIC CONTENT REQUIREMENTS IS FURNISHED IN RESPONSE REF A.

2. KOREAN DOMESTIC CONTENT SCHEME FOR MOTOR VEHICLES APPLIES TO DOMESTIC PRODUCTION. HOWEVER, MOTOR VEHICLES ARE CARRIED ON THE LIST OF RESTRICTED IMPORTS UNDER KOREAN TRADE PLAN AND IMPORTS OF MOTOR VEHICLES UNDER 12 TONS, OTHER THAN SOME SPECIAL VEHICLES, ARE NOT PERMITTED. ALL PRODUCTION OF MOTOR VEHICLES, INCLUDING THAT OF FOREIGN INVESTED FIRMS, IS GOVERNED BY GUIDELINES FOR PHASED INCREASES OF DOMESTIC CONTENT. INTENT OF THESE MEASURES IS TO DEVELOP DOMESTIC CAPABILITY, WITHIN TARGETED PERIODS, FOR VIRTUALLY ALL MANUFACTURING PROCESSES FOR MOTOR VEHICLE PRODUCTION, BOTH FOR IMPORT SUBSTITUTION AND FOR EVENTUAL EXPORTS. DOMESTIC CONTENT REQUIREMENT WILL REACH 95 PERCENT AS OF DECEMBER 31, 1975 FOR FOUR MAJOR CATEGORIES OF VEHICLES (TWO TYPES OF PASSENGER CARS, ONE TRUCK AND ONE BUS). PERMISSIBLE IMPORT CONTENT AS OF DECEMBER 31 WILL CONSIST OF CERTAIN BEARINGS, CARBURETORS, NOZZLES FOR DIESEL ENGINE AND VARIOUS MINOR PARTS WHICH ARE NOT EXPECTED TO BE PRODUCED IN KOREA IN THE NEAR FUTURE.

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